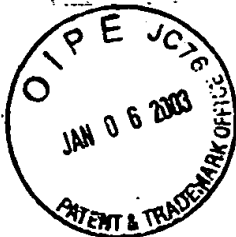


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)

Noriaki HASHIMOTO)

Serial No. 09/523,375)

Filed: March 10, 2000)

) Examiner: Unassigned

) Group Art Unit: ~~2379~~ 2661

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2003

Technology Center 2600

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OPERATION OF A RESILIENT CLOSED COMMUNICATION
NETWORK WITHOUT A DEDICATED PROTECTION NETWORK SEGMENT

**ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY WITH REVOCATION
OF PREVIOUS POWER AND STATUS INQUIRY**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Noriaki HASHIMOTO, as the inventor of the above-referenced patent application, hereby appoint the
following attorneys to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark office in connection with this patent:

Customer No. 6449

I hereby revoke all powers of attorney previously given.

Status Inquiry

Please advise as to when the first Office Action can be expected in connection with the above-identified
application.

Noriaki HASHIMOTO

Noriaki Hashimoto

Dated: December 26, 2002